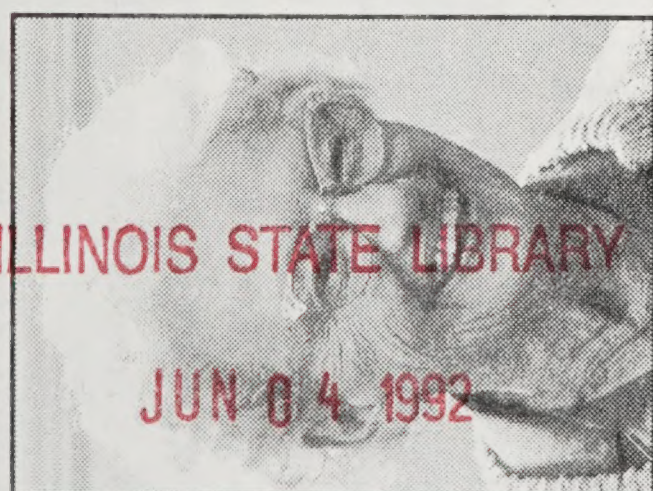


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Illinois Department on Aging
COMMUNITY CARE

... helping older people to live independently



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Community Care Program:

The Department on Aging's Community Care Program is designed to keep older people out of nursing homes if they don't need to be there. Some elderly persons do need help to remain in their own homes, but they do not need the 24-hour supervision that is provided in a nursing home. Those older people who qualify for the Community Care Program can receive assistance with basic household and personal tasks -- and can continue living independently in their own homes and communities. The four services provided through the program include chore-housekeeping, homemaker, adult day care, and senior companion.

Chore-Housekeeping

Individuals who are unable to perform some basic household tasks, but can supervise someone to assist them, are best served by the chore-housekeeping service. Chore workers can help by vacuuming, dusting, cleaning the kitchen and bathroom, preparing meals or washing laundry.

Homemaker

Homemakers serve a more impaired clientele and are involved with personal care, such as grooming or bathing, and more complex household tasks, such as meal planning and household management.

Adult Day Care

Adult day care services offer clients the opportunity to interact with other older people in a supervised setting outside their own homes. Adult day care centers offer a wide range of social activities. Other available services may include counseling and physical therapy with trained professionals. Participants share a noon meal together and enjoy everything from arts and crafts to card games and current events classes. Additionally, adult day care centers can serve the needs of the participant's family, who may need respite from caregiving responsibilities, or whose work obligations prevent their caring for the older family member during the day. In each of the day care centers funded by the Department on Aging, specialized services are offered for individuals who suffer from Alzheimer's Disease or related disorders.

Senior Companion

Older volunteers provide assistance and companionship to older people who need social interaction or who cannot be left alone for extended periods. The service provides needed respite to family caregivers, as well as friendship for the individual.

Eligibility

You are eligible for Community Care Program services if:

1. You are age 60 or older;
2. You are determined physically in need of service, meaning that you are at least moderately impaired;
3. You are a resident of the state of Illinois;
4. You are a U.S. Citizen or legal alien; and
5. Your countable assets are less than \$10,000. (Your home, car, household and personal furnishings do not count.)

Cost

If your family income is below the federal poverty level, the state will pay the entire cost of service. You will not be charged a fee.

If your family income is above the federal poverty level, the state will pay part of the cost of service. Your share will depend on your income, the cost of the care and the number of persons in your family who already receive Community Care Program services.

To Apply

For information and referral to the appropriate local agency, call the Department on Aging's
TOLL-FREE: Senior HelpLine, 1 800 252-8966 (Voice and TDD).

Professional staff will be there to help you Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Jim Edgar, Governor -- State of Illinois

The Illinois Department on Aging does not discriminate in admission to programs or treatment of employment in programs or activities in compliance with the Illinois Human Rights Act; the U.S. Civil Rights Act; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act; the Age Discrimination Act; the Age Discrimination in Employment Act; and the U.S. and Illinois Constitutions. If you feel you have been discriminated against, you have a right to file a complaint with the Illinois Department on Aging; for information, call 1-800-252-8966 (Voice and TDD).
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